

# **Nuptial Blessing**

### **Option 1**

Priest: Let us each ask God our Father, in silence, to bless Bride & Groom, his children, as they begin their married life. Father, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name.

You made us. You made all that exists.

You made man and woman like yourself in their power to know and love.
You call them to share life with each other, saying "it is not good for man to be alone".
You bless them with children to give new life to your people, telling them:
"Increase and multiply, and fill the earth".

We call to mind the fruitful companionship of Abraham, our father in faith, and his wife Sarah. We remember how your guiding hand brought Rebecca and Isaac together, and how through the lives of Jacob and Rachel, you prepared the way for the kingdom.

Father, you take delight in the love of husband and wife, that love which hopes and shares, heals and forgives.

We ask you to bless Bride and Groom as they set out on their new life.

Fill their hearts with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of understanding, joy, fortitude and peace.

Strengthen them to do your will, and in the trials of life to bear the cross with Christ.

May they praise you during the bright days and call on you in times of trouble.

Let their love be strong as death, a fire that floods cannot drown, a jewel beyond all price.

May their life together give witness to their faith in Christ.

May they see long and happy days and may old age come to them in the company of their friends.

May they be united forever in the kingdom of your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

### **Option 2**

**Priest:** Let us humbly invoke by our prayers, dear brothers & sisters, God's blessing upon Bride & Groom, that in his kindness he may favour with his help those on whom he has bestowed the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Holy Father, maker of the whole world,

who created man and woman in your own image and willed that their union be crowned with your blessing, we humbly beseech you for these your servants,

who are joined today in the Sacrament of Matrimony.

May your abundant blessing, Lord, come down upon Bride & upon her companion, Groom.

May the power of your Holy Spirit set their hearts aflame from on high, so that, living out together the gift of Matrimony, they may adorn their family with children and enrich the Church.

In happiness, may they praise you. O Lord, in sorrow may they seek you out.

May they have the joy of your presence to assist them in their toil.

May they know that you are near to comfort them in their need.

Let them pray to you in the holy assembly and bear witness to you in the world, and after a happy old age, together with their circle of friends that surround them, may they come to the Kingdom of Heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

#### **Nuptial Blessing**

### **Option 3**

**Priest:** Let us ask God to bless Bride & Groom,

now married in Christ, and unite them in his love through the Sacrament of his body & blood. God our Father, creator of the universe, you made man & woman in your own likeness & blessed their union. We humbly pray to you for Bride & Groom, today united in the Sacrament of Marriage. May your blessing come upon them.

> May they find happiness in their love for each other, be blessed in their children, and enrich the life of the church.

May they praise you in their days of happiness & turn to you in times of sorrow. May they know the joy of your help in their work, and the strength of your presence in their need. May they worship you with the church & be your witness in the world. May old age come to them in the company of their friends & may they reach, at last,

the Kingdom of Heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord. All: Amen.

### **Option 4**

Priest: Let us ask God to bless Bride & Groom

now married in Christ, and unite them in his love through the Sacrament of his body & blood. God our Father, creator of the universe, maker of man & woman in your own likeness, source of blessing for married life,

we humbly pray to you for Bride, who today is united with Groom, in the Sacrament of Marriage. May your blessing come upon Bride & Groom,

so that they may together rejoice in your gift of married love & enrich your Church with their children. Lord, may they both praise you when they are happy & turn to you in their sorrow.

May they be glad that you are with them in their need.

May they pray to you in the company of the Church & be your witnesses in the world. May they reach old age in the company of their friends & come at last to the Kingdom of Heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

> All: Amen.

## **Option 5**

**Priest:** Let us ask God to bless Bride & Groom, now married in Christ, and unite them in his love.

God our Father, creator of the universe, maker of man & woman in your own likeness, You gave woman as companion to man so that they should no longer be two, but one flesh, teaching us that those who have so united may never be separated.

Father you have sanctified marriage in a mystery so holy that it is a sign of the union of Christ & his Church.

Look with love upon Bride as she asks your blessing.

May she live in peace with you, may she be faithful to Groom, generous & kind. May Groom place his trust in her & see her as his companion, be faithful to Bride, gentle & strong. Father, keep Bride & Groom strong in faith & true to your commandments.

May they be faithful to each other, examples of Christian living & witnesses of Christ.

Bless them with children & help them to be good parents.

As they now come as man & wife to your altar, may they one day share your feast in Heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

> All: Amen.

Parishes of Roscrea, Bournea, Kyle & Knock